

DATE: January 28, 2013

TO: RMC Governing Board

FROM: Mark Stanley, Executive Officer

SUBJECT: Item 12: Consideration of a resolution authorizing a grant to California Resource Connections, Inc. for the San Gabriel River Signage Improvements (RMC12002)

PROGRAM AREA: Rivers and Tributary Program

PROJECT TYPE: Development

JURISDICTION: City of Azusa

PROJECT MANAGER: Luz Torres

RECOMMENDATION: That the RMC adopt a resolution authorizing a grant in the amount of \$100,000 to the California Resource Connection for the San Gabriel River Trail Signage Improvements (RMC12002).

PROJECT'S DESCRIPTION: This grant will improve interpretive signage so that it can be consistent with the San Gabriel River Trail Signage Guidelines. Signage improvements will include areas along the San Gabriel River Trail from just south of the Geology Park to the current trail end along Highway 39 near the entrance to the Azusa River Wilderness Park. Improvements include: (1) placement of mileage reference signage to key locations and features along the trail; (2) redesign and replacement of insufficient interpretive signage in San Gabriel Canyon; (3) installation of a "staging area" name sign visible from Highway 39; (4) alteration of existing informational signage at the Forest Gateway/SGR Trailhead Staging Area to improve visibility and user readability for posted information; (5) replacement of inconsistent way-finding signage; and (6) repair and/or replacement of damaged signage.

BACKGROUND: The San Gabriel River Trail Signage Improvements are to be compliment the Azusa Geology Project currently underway; given both projects will improve trail signage within the City of Azusa. The San Gabriel River Trail Signage Improvements will provide an expansion upon the Azusa Geology Park and improvements will be made past the park along the San Gabriel River Trail from Lario Park to the current trail-end in San Gabriel Canyon, as well as along the Todd Avenue access route from Sierra Madre Avenue to the San Gabriel River Trail. The new grant includes way-finding signs to connect visitors entering the trailhead located at Sierra Madre Avenue and Todd Avenue with the San Gabriel River Trail and future Azusa Geology Park. Signage will be placed at the trailhead entrance, along the trailhead access road, at the Geology Park site, and at the entrance to the San Gabriel River Trail. Additionally, the project will include interpretive signage and educational displays within the Azusa Geology Park to educate park users on local geologic processes, and the connection between geology and modern living.

The Azusa Geology Park will link programmatically and physically via the San Gabriel River Trail to other nearby venues including the Azusa River Wilderness Park, Forest Gateway, and Lario Park. This segment of the San Gabriel River Trail currently has a variety of sign styles and inconsistencies with the adopted San Gabriel River Trail Signage Guidelines.

The new grant would allow for this segment of the bike trail to be uniform and consistent with the San Gabriel River Trail Signage Guidelines. In addition, funding will enable California Resource Connections to design and install a series of signage improvements along the San Gabriel River Trail from just south of the Azusa Geology Park to the current trail-end along State Highway 39 near the entrance of the RMC offices.

The California Resource Connections propose the following elements if this grant is approved.

1. Improvement of the existing lockable message board/case at the Forest Gateway/SGR Trail Staging Area including: (a) lowering the message board to make for better visual access to posted information; (b) a map of local trail connections and destinations; (c) a map of the San Gabriel River Trail system to Seal Beach showing major destinations and “where you are” signage; and (d) an additional permanent trailhead name sign visible from the highway and attached to the existing message board/case structure.
2. Installation of a “staging area” name sign visible from Highway 39.
3. Replacement of the interpretive sign at the current trail end with a new interpretive sign that is consistent with the San Gabriel River Trail Signage Guidelines. The new sign will display: (a) local natural resource information; (b) a map of local trail connections and destinations; and (c) a map of the San Gabriel River Trail system to Seal Beach showing major destinations and “where you are” identifier.
4. Repair of the existing, damaged interpretive sign located in the rest area at the Forest Gateway/SGR Trail Staging Area.
5. Replacement of various way-finding signs with new signage consistent with the San Gabriel River Trail Signage Guidelines.

This grant is consistent with the RMC Goals and Objectives and California Resource Connections has submitted the necessary documents including the budget, timeline and tasklist. In addition, the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works supports the project and their letter is attached.

Exhibit A – California Resource Connection letter of intent

Exhibit B – Budget

Exhibit C – Timeline and Tasklist

Exhibit D – Proposed Elements and Map

Exhibit E – Support Letter from LA County Department of Public Works

FISCAL INFORMATION: The total cost of development for the San Gabriel River Trail Signage Improvements (RMC12002) is \$100,000 and upon review of the urgency request and proposed elements identified, Staff determined the RMC has available funding and recommends funding for a total grant amount of \$100,000.

Although initial funding for this project is proposed to be allocated from Proposition 84, it may be necessary to amend the funding source in order to maximize the availability of cash from the sale of bond funds or to address the potential reversion of funds from the initial source. Therefore, the Executive Officer may designate any of the following funding sources for this project: California Clean Water, Clean Air, Safe Neighborhood Parks, and Coastal Protection Act of 2002 (Proposition 40) and/or the Water, Security, Clean Drinking Water, Coastal and Beach Protection Act of 2002 (Proposition 50), and/or the Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2006 (Proposition 84).

The California State Public Resources Code Section 5096.650(b) and 5066.650(b)(6) provide that: (b) The sum of four hundred forty-five million dollars (\$445,000,000) to the conservancies in accordance with the particular provisions of the statute creating each conservancy for the acquisition, development, rehabilitation, restoration, and protection of land and water resources; for grants and state administrative costs; and in accordance with the following schedule...

Section 5096.650(b)(6) to the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy\$40,000,000. (Proposition 40).

The sum of twenty million dollars (\$20,000,000) to the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy for protection of the San Gabriel and lower Los Angeles River watersheds pursuant to Division 22.8 (commencing with Section 32600) of the Public Resources Code. (Proposition 50).

75050. The sum of nine hundred twenty eight million dollars (\$928,000,000) shall be available for the protection and restoration of rivers, lakes and streams, their watersheds and associated land, water, and other natural resources in accordance with the following schedule:... (g) The sum of seventy two million dollars (\$72,000,000) shall be available for projects within the watersheds of the Los Angeles and San Gabriel Rivers according to the following schedule: (1) \$36,000,000 to the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy pursuant to Division 22.8 (commencing with Section 32600). (Proposition 84).

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY AND RMC ADOPTED POLICIES/AUTHORITIES: The Rivers and Mountains Conservancy (RMC) statute provides in part that:

Section 32602: There is in the Resources Agency, the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy, which is created as a state agency for the following purposes:

- (a) To acquire and manage public lands within the Lower Los Angeles River and San Gabriel River watersheds, and to provide open-space, low-impact recreational and educational uses, water conservation, watershed improvement, wildlife and habitat restoration and protection, and watershed improvement within the territory.
- (b) To preserve the San Gabriel River and the Lower Los Angeles River consistent with existing and adopted river and flood control projects for the protection of life and property.
- (c) To acquire open-space lands within the territory of the conservancy.

Section 32604: The conservancy shall do all of the following:

- (a) Establish policies and priorities for the conservancy regarding the San Gabriel River and the Lower Los Angeles River, and their watersheds, and conduct any necessary planning activities, in accordance with the purposes set forth in Section 32602.
- (b) Approve conservancy funded projects that advance the policies and priorities set forth in Section 32602.

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Exhibit A - California Resource Connection letter of intent

July 6, 2012

Mark Stanley
San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy
100 N. Old San Gabriel Canyon Road
Azusa, CA 91702

**Subject: Letter of Intent for Use of Additional Funding
San Gabriel River Trail Signage Improvements**

Dear Mr. Stanley,

California Resource Connections, Inc. (CRC) confirms its intent to design and install wayfinding and interpretive signage improvements associated with the San Gabriel River Trail through the City of Azusa and requests funding in the amount of \$100,000 for this purpose. New signage improvements will be made along the San Gabriel River Trail from Lario Park to the current trail end in San Gabriel Canyon, as well as along the Todd Ave. access route from Sierra Madre Ave. to the San Gabriel River Trail.

As you know, CRC is designing and building the Azusa Geology Park (RMC10009) project located adjacent to the San Gabriel River north of the intersection of Sierra Madre Ave. and Todd Ave. in the City of Azusa. The park will include interpretive signage and site design for education on geologic processes and the connection between geology and modern living. To significantly improve the user experience, additional funding will enable CRC to design and install a variety of complimentary signage and physical improvements along the Todd Ave. access route. These features include: (1) trailhead entry signage at the intersection of Todd Ave. and Sierra Madre Ave.; (2) geologic process and landmark interpretive signage along the route introducing the Geology Park; (3) wayfinding signage connecting users to the Geology Park and San Gabriel River Trail; and (4) landscape improvements along the route. All improvements are intended to compliment the Geology Park and to bring attention to the San Gabriel River Trail system and its local amenities.

The Geology Park links programmatically and physically via the San Gabriel River Trail to other nearby venues including the Azusa River Wilderness Park, Forest Gateway, and Lario Park. This segment of the San Gabriel River Trail currently has a variety of sign styles and inconsistencies with adopted San Gabriel River Trail Signage Guidelines. To make this segment more uniform visually and consistent with adopted San Gabriel River Trail Signage Guidelines, additional funding will also enable CRC to design and install a series of signage improvements along the San Gabriel River Trail from just south of the Geology Park to the current trail end along Highway 39 near the entrance to El Encanto. Improvements include: (1) replacement of inconsistent wayfinding signage; (2) placement of mileage reference signage to key locations and features along the trail; (3) redesign and replacement of insufficient interpretive signage in San Gabriel Canyon; (4) alteration of existing informational signage at the Forest Gateway/SGR Trailhead Staging Area to improvement visibility and user readability for posted information; (5)

installation of a “staging area” name sign visible from Highway 39; and (6) repair and/or replacement of damaged signage.

The Geology Park project is anticipated to be under construction between August and October 2012. CRC estimates that once a construction contractor is selected and gets the project underway, it will take approximately three months to complete the major and most minor features of the park design. Some finish work utilizing community and corporate volunteers may be completed following completion of contractor tasks. The proposed signage improvements can be designed and implemented in concert with the Geology Park project, however these proposed improvements can be implemented on their own timeframe, independent of the Geology Park.

Attached please find a task list of work associated with this letter of intent, as well as a proposed budget and schedule. Should you have any questions, please contact me at your convenience. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Richard A. Thomas". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long horizontal line extending from the end.

RICK THOMAS
President

Cc:

Luz Torres, San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy

Enclosure

Scope of Work Task List with Budget

Estimated Schedule

Geology Park Conceptual Design

Todd Ave. Geology Trail Signage Conceptual Design

Exhibit B - Budget

TASK LIST/SCOPE OF WORK

Task Description	Todd Ave.	SGR Trail	Total
Project Management	\$3,500.00	\$3,000.00	\$6,500.00
Design	\$6,500.00	\$4,000.00	\$10,500.00
Interpretive Signs – Todd Ave. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 4 Freestanding Signs¹ ▪ 10 Time Markers² ▪ 5 Metal Appliques for fencing³ 	\$17,500.00		\$17,500.00
Interpretive Signs – SGR Trail <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ SGR Trail End Interpretive Sign Replacement⁴ ▪ Repair of Interpretive Sign at the Trail Staging Area/Forest Gateway 		\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00
Wayfinding Signs – Todd Ave. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 1 Geology Trail Sign (Sierra Madre Ave.)⁵ ▪ 4 Bike Trail Entrance Signs (Sierra Madre Ave.)⁶ ▪ 9 SGRT Bike Trail Connection Signs⁷ ▪ 4 Mileage Markers⁸ 	\$6,500.00		\$6,500.00
Wayfinding Signs – SGR Trail		\$22,600.00	\$22,600.00
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 20 SGR Trail Wayfinding Sign Sets (3"x9" SGR Trail Header plus Bike Path sign with bicycle image) - \$10,000.00⁹ ▪ 20 SGR Trail Wayfinding Individual Signs (3"x9" signs with mileage, arrow, and/or text) - \$5500.00⁹ ▪ 12 Posts - \$3600.00 ▪ Forest Gateway/SGR Trail Staging Area Sign (structure reuse with sign on top of message board/case existing structure) - \$3500.00¹⁰ 			
Materials and Installation	\$8,500.00	\$5,800.00	\$14,300.00
Construction Management	\$4,500.00	\$3,500.00	\$8,000.00
Permit Fees			\$2,600.00

Task Description	Todd Ave.	SGR Trail	Total
Subtotal	\$47,000.00	\$42,400.00	\$92,000.00
Administration Fee (9%)			\$8,000.00
TOTAL			\$100,000.00
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Large interpretive signs depicting Igneous, Metamorphic, Sedimentary, California/Local 2. Street paint demonstrating the passage of time 3. Metal sculptures depicting local geologic features and processes 4. Replacement of the interpretive sign at the current trail end with a new interpretive sign that is consistent with adopted San Gabriel River Trail Signage Guidelines. The new sign will display: (a) local natural resource information; (b) a map of local trail connections and destinations; and (c) a map of the San Gabriel River Trail system to Seal Beach showing major destinations and “where you are”. 5. Engraved boulder 6. Stop sign, bike path sign set, geology park ¼ mile sign, ADA van accessible sign 7. 1 SGRBT sign set with direction arrows and mileage, 1 SGRBT sign set with arrow, 2 SGRBT sign sets, 2 Geo Park & Trail directional signs, 3 bicycle signs 8. 1/8 and ¼ mile signs indicating distance along the Todd Ave. access road for users interested in calculating walking miles 9. Replacement of various wayfinding signs with new signage consistent with adopted San Gabriel River Trail Signage Guidelines. 10. Improvement of the existing lockable message board/case at the Forest Gateway/SGR Trail Staging Area including: (a) lowering the message board to make for better visual access to posted information; (b) a map of local trail connections and destinations; (c) a map of the San Gabriel River Trail system to Seal Beach showing major destinations and “where you are”; and (d) addition of a permanent trailhead name sign visible from the highway and attached to the existing message board/case structure. 			

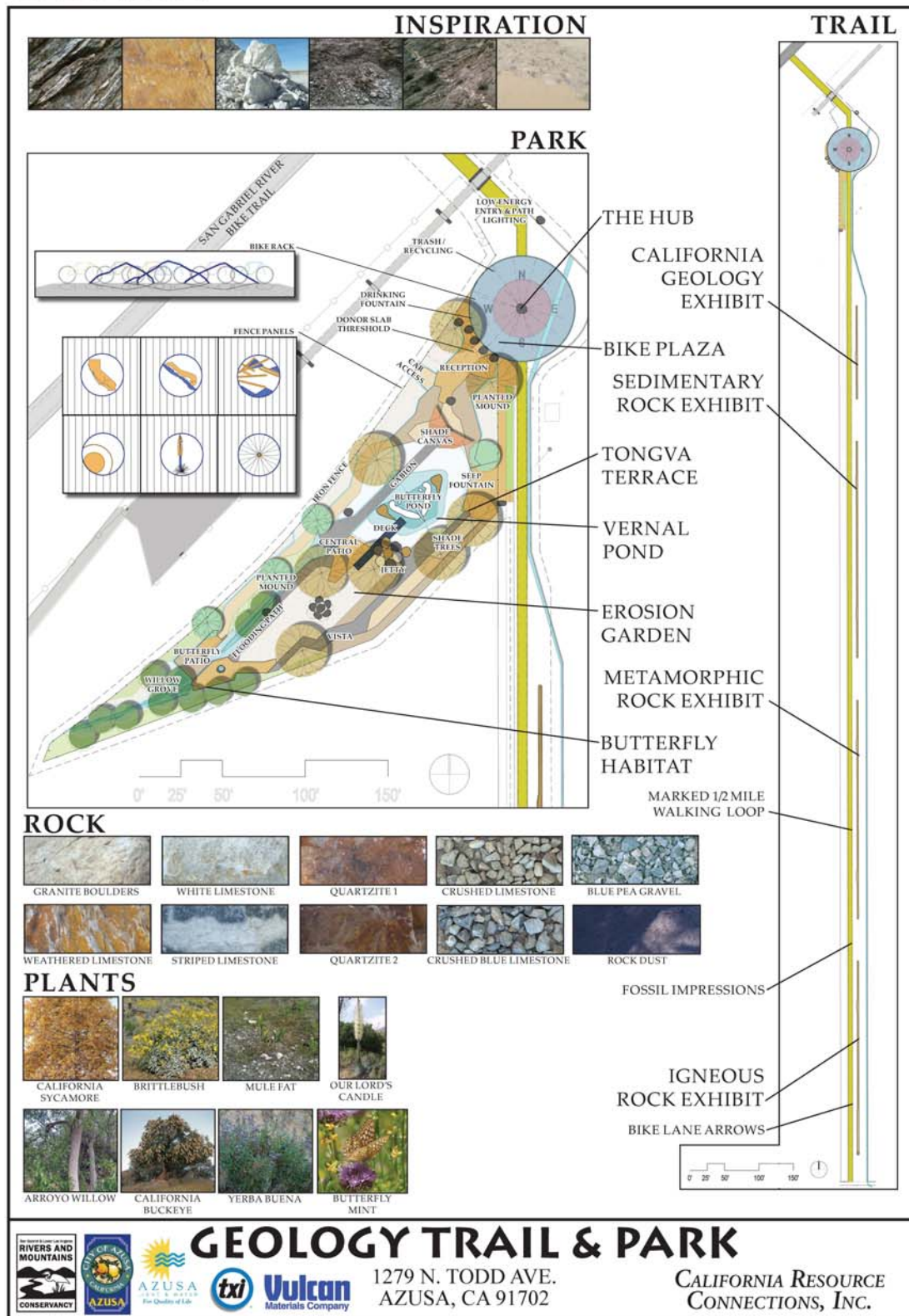
Exhibit C - Timeline and Tasklist

SCHEDULE/TIMELINE

Task Name	# Milestone			X Completion			
	2012			2013			
	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR
Project Management	#	#	#	#	#	#	#X
Design		#	#X				
Interpretive Signs – Todd Ave.					#	#	X
Interpretive Signs – SGR Trail					#	#	X
Wayfinding Signs – Todd Ave.				#	#	X	
Wayfinding Signs – SGR Trail				#	#	X	
Materials and Installation							X
Construction Management							X

Exhibit D - Proposed Elements and Map

DESIGN



SIGNS

A. TRAIL CONNECTION



C. INSIDE PARK



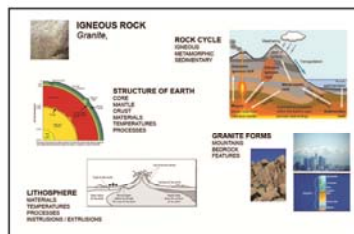
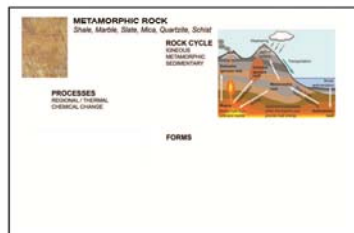
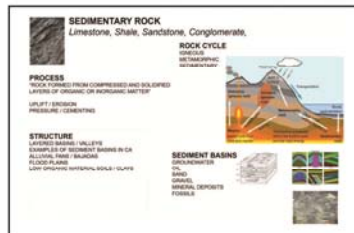
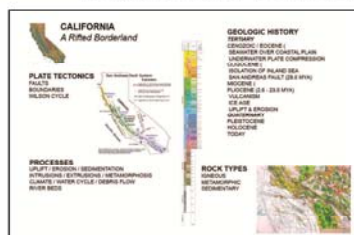
E. TRAIL ENTRANCE

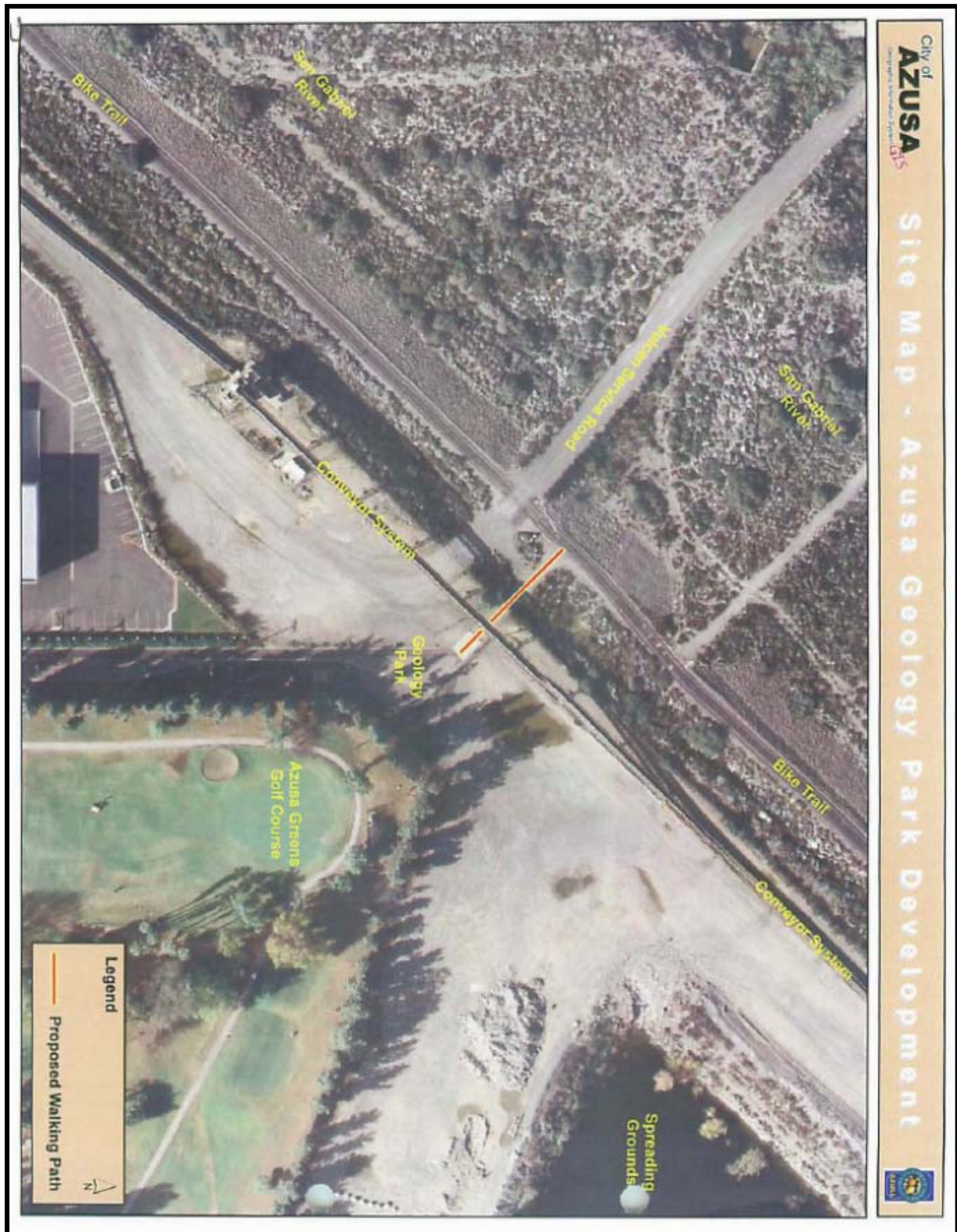


B. PARK ENTRANCE



D. ALONG TRAIL







GAIL FARBER, Director

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

900 SOUTH FREMONT AVENUE
ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91803-1331
Telephone: (626) 458-5100
<http://dpw.lacounty.gov>

ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:
P.O. BOX 1460
ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91802-1460

IN REPLY PLEASE

REFER TO FILE:

WM-5

January 14, 2013

Mr. Mark Stanley, Executive Officer
Rivers and Mountains Conservancy
100 North Old San Gabriel Canyon Road
Azusa, CA 91702

Dear Mr. Stanley:

SIGNAGE ENHANCEMENTS PROJECT SAN GABRIEL RIVER

California Resource Connections, Inc., recently shared their proposal to design and install wayfinding and interpretive signage improvements associated with the San Gabriel River Trail through the City of Azusa. The new signage improvements will be made along the San Gabriel River Trail from Lario Park to the current trail end in the San Gabriel Canyon, as well as along the Todd Avenue access route from Sierra Madre Avenue to the San Gabriel River Trail.

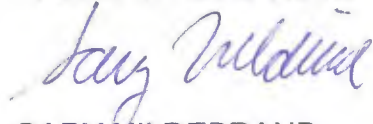
The Los Angeles County Flood Control District (LACFCD) is supportive of projects such as this that enhance entry to the regional bicycle trail system and improve trail visibility while incorporating low-impact development principles along the San Gabriel River. The LACFCD will collaborate with the California Resource Connections, Inc., as they develop their project to ensure that the design provides appropriate enhancement of LACFCD right of way. As similar with other projects, a Flood Permit, a permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and a Use/Maintenance Agreement may be required.

Mr. Mark Stanley
January 14, 2013
Page 2

The LACFCD supports this project and looks forward to its development. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact me at (626) 458-4300 or ghildeb@dpw.lacounty.gov or your staff may contact Ms. Terri Grant at (626) 458-4309 or tgrant@dpw.lacounty.gov

Very truly yours,

GAIL FARBER
Director of Public Works



GARY HILDEBRAND
Assistant Deputy Director
Watershed Management Division

PA:sw

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January 28, 2013 - Item 12

RESOLUTION NO. 2013-01

RESOLUTION OF THE SAN GABRIEL AND LOWER LOS ANGELES
RIVERS AND MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY (RMC) AUTHORIZING A
GRANT TO THE CALIFORNIA RESOURCE CONNECTIONS, INC. FOR
THE SAN GABRIEL RIVER TRAIL SIGNAGE IMPROVEMENTS
(RMC12002)

WHEREAS, The legislature has found and declared that the San Gabriel River and its tributaries, the Lower Los Angeles River and its tributaries, and the San Gabriel Mountains, Puente Hills, and San Jose Hills constitute a unique and important open space, environmental, anthropological, cultural, scientific, educational, recreational, scenic, and wildlife resource that should be held in trust to be preserved and enhanced for the enjoyment of, and appreciation by, present and future generations; and

WHEREAS, The people of the State of California have enacted the Clean Water, Clean Air, Safe Neighborhoods, and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2002 (Park Bond Act Proposition 40) which provides funds for the RMC Grant Program; and

WHEREAS, The people of the State of California have enacted the Water Security, Clean Drinking Water, Coastal and Beach Protection Act of 2002 (Proposition 50), which provides funds for the RMC grant program; and

WHEREAS, The people of the State of California have enacted the Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2006 (Proposition 84), which provides funds for the RMC grant program; and

WHEREAS, The RMC may award grants to local public agencies, state agencies, federal agencies, and nonprofit organizations for the purposes of Division 22.8 the Public Resources Code; and

WHEREAS, The Applicant has submitted a project which is consistent with the purposes of Division 22.8 of the Public Resources Code and the Bond Act; and NOW

Therefore be it resolved that the RMC hereby:

1. FINDS that this action is consistent with the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy Act and is necessary to carry out the purposes and objectives of Division 22.8 of the Public Resources Code.
2. FINDS that the grant is consistent with the California Clean Water, Clean Air, Safe Neighborhood Parks, and Coastal Protection Act of 2002 (Proposition 40), the Water, Security, Clean Drinking Water, Coastal and Beach Protection Act of 2002 (Proposition 50) and the Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2006 (Proposition 84), which provides funds for the RMC grant program.

Resolution 2013-01

3. APPROVES a grant to California Resource Connections, Inc. for the San Gabriel River Trail Signage Improvements (RMC12002) in a total amount not to exceed \$100,000.
4. ADOPTS the staff report dated January 28, 2013.

~ End of Resolution ~

Motion _____ Second: _____

Ayes: _____ Nays: _____ Abstentions: _____

Passed and Adopted by the Board of the
SAN GABRIEL AND LOWER LOS ANGELES RIVERS AND MOUNTAINS
CONSERVANCY on January 28, 2013.

Frank Colonna, Chair

ATTEST: _____
Terry Fujimoto
Deputy Attorney General